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World-Famous Leader Speaks Here, May 12th

Ittmar Ben-Avi to Open U.P.A. Drive

An expected audience of five hundred will welcome one of the most colorful personalities in the world, when Ittamar Ben-Avi will open the U.P.A. campaign in Ottawa Sunday, May 12th, at 7.00 p.m. in the Hotel Chateau Laurier. The first prominent orator from Palestine to visit this country since the outbreak of the war, Mr. Ben-Avi brings a message of immeasurable importance to every Jewish man and woman. He is eminently qualified as a lecturer, author, and editor to discuss the situation in the Near East in the light of recent world developments.

Ben-Avi's father, the late Eliezer Ben-Yehudah, was the father of modern Hebrew as a spoken language, and he reared his son as the first west-European child to use Hebrew as his native tongue. As a young man, Ben-Avi continued the education that began in Jerusalem by studying in the universities of Paris and Berlin. Recognized as a gifted linguist and writer, he became active in the Holy Land in behalf of the Allies during the first World War, and he narrowly escaped with his life when the Turkish authorities ordered his execution.

Since that time he has been a central figure in the Zionist movement, accompanying the Jewish delegation to the peace Conference at Versailles and participating thereafter in the cultural and political growth of Eretz Yisroel.

Honorary Chairman of U.P.A. Speaks

Today the Jewish people are united with the democratic powers in the great struggle for liberty, freedom and justice against the forces of tyranny and oppression. The spread of Naziism has wrought havoc and destruction to Jewish communities and has added to the heavy toll of Jewish suffering. At this time, growing thousands of stricken and homeless Jews wander desolate through "no man's land."

Amid the horror and destruction of war, one note of construction is heard in the Jewish world. Palestine, which was in 1914-18 a scene of battle itself, is today a firm rock in this new period of adversity, and is a strong, effective bulwark for world Jewry. With a virile Jewish population of half a million, it alone is ready and eager to receive refugees. It has, during the past seven years, taken in 71% of world Jewish immigration. 70,000 German-Jewish refugees have found a home in Palestine, since the advent of Hitler, and of this number, almost 30,000 entered in 1939.

Thus, the development of the Jewish Homeland moves steadily forward. Side by side with war duties, the Jews of Palestine carry on the work of construction and expansion of colonization. Undaunted and unafraid of hardships or danger, the Jewish pioneers push their work with greater zeal and energy than ever before, for the frightful plight of our people in Europe necessitates that this work move forward at a greater and faster pace.

In spite of temporary land strictures, millions of dunams in Palestine are still available for Jewish colonization, therefore, the great task today is to buy more land for more people. While others speak in terms of terror and destruction, we speak in terms of soil, settlement and security for our harried fellow-Jews. This is the language of the UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL.

This campaign provides funds for the buying of land, the colonization of that land and the security of the people settled thereon. Through the Dominion, this appeal is now being launched and should have the wholehearted and complete cooperation of every community.

The Jewish people of Canada, responsive to the message of the United Palestine Appeal, are aware of its vital significance in times like these. They are ready and eager to help in this great constructive task. I feel confident, therefore, that the 1940 United Palestine Appeal will have the great success it deserves. And, to the Jewish community in Ottawa, I wish to say—may you enter upon your work in this Campaign with the deep seriousness demanded by these grave days and may your efforts succeed a thousandfold.

LILLIAN FREIMAN

WORLD—FAMOUS LEADER SPEAKS HERE MAY 12th.

Mr. Alex Betcherman, chairman of the Ottawa campaign, will head a committee of communal leaders to meet the distinguished guest upon his arrival Sunday morning.

There's Still Time

If you haven't made your reservation yet for the U.P.A. banquet Sunday night, please call **Mrs. M. Pearlman**, Chairman of Reservations, at 4-3264

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Jewish Bulletin
Published by
The Ottawa Jewish Community Council
Oscar Z. Fasman, Rabbi

A. J. Freiman.....President
C. Caplan .....Vice-president
Thomas Sachs .....Vice-president
E. Weiner .....Treasurer
B. Pearl .....Hon. Secretary
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WE WILL SUCCEED!

The tragedies that human monsters have heaped upon our head make us the more determined to succeed in our constructive efforts. As a stubborn people, we meet attacks upon us by living the more valiantly. To those who cry out, "Death Unto Israel!" we reply, "Am Yisroel Chai!" The People of Israel Lives!

Meekly have we submitted to being driven out of one land after another in Europe; but in one corner of the globe we take our stand firmly, and we will hold our ground. In the country that is our Home we propose to stay and to create. Regardless of our defeats elsewhere, there we know only victory. From that soil will come forth roses and lillies, oranges and grapes, barley and wheat; and upon it will grow Torah and prophecy, ethics and morality, freedom and justice.

Everything we invest there proves profitable, not only financially, but, what is far more important, spiritually. Our dollars there are converted into that which is even greater than a national economy; namely, a national civilization. If men pour riches into the erection of houses, how much ought we to pour into the building of a proud and noble race!

In our epoch-making task we have called into being the most perfect instrument we could conceive for our purpose, the United Palestine Appeal. By raising funds to make our dream come true, it has become the agency through which a Jew may serve his own destiny. By his generous participation in its work, he vindicates himself as a worthy scion of immortal sires.

Today the cause takes on new significance, because it opens the only door left in a tortured world for our refugee brethren. Today the dollars given spell hope for the hopeless, rest for the weary. Who can estimate how many lives will be saved by the liberal response of Ottawa Jewry?

Every individual must do his share! Our drive here shall succeed! Our work there shall succeed! Mankind will applaud, for we will succeed!

OTTAWA JEWISH CHILDREN WILL PRAY

Ottawa can boast of several hundred Jewish boys and girls between the ages of six and fourteen who know how to read Hebrew. How many of them utilize this knowledge in regular daily prayer?

Yet we are living in a period where little has been left to Israel beyond its traditional weapons of work and prayer. Children can benefit us much more in the latter, since their pleas arise from innocent hearts. Of certain older people who pray very piously we sometimes suspect hypocrisy, because their deeds seem to contradict their religious fervor; but when a child prays, we are immediately touched by his simplicity, and we feel that his words must gain an audience in heaven. Even when he is mischievous, he is not malicious, and we trust the petition of his lips to go far.

Why, then, should we not mobilize the tremendous spiritual energies of the purest element in our community? Why should we not tap the vast moral resources that lie hidden in our most precious reservoir? With what reverence our sages of old referred to the "Havle Pehen Shel Tinokoth," the warm breath that issues from the mouths of little ones at their sacred studies!

Again, our people needs faith today in order to maintain its morale in the face of its untold miseries. To counteract the defeatism that can naturally result from the observation of present horrors we must renew our belief in the ultimate justice meted out by a Supreme Ruler. Into the souls of our young we must engrave that conviction, and we can best do so by inspiring them through the habit of prayer. The minstrel king proclaims: "Out of the mouth of babes and sucklngs hast Thou founded strength."

Under the guidance of the Rabbi, the Ottawa Talmud Torah will inaugurate a Morning Minyan Club, whose young members will join with each other every morning in prayer, though each will use his Siddur in his own home. The idea is that the individual service of the child will assume communal dimensions, because his friends will be reading the identical prayers during the very same hour. With the cooperation of the parents the club will add a vital novel factor to the spiritual climate of Ottawa.

OSCAR Z. FASMAN

More Jews Giving for Refugees

Reveals J. D. C. Report

By indicating that 781 contributors gave to the Joint Distribution Committee drive in 1940, compared with 607 contributors in 1939, Mr. M. Loeb, chairman of the campaign, vividly reminded the members of the Vaad Ha'ir, in a report delivered to them Sunday, April 28, that more Jews than ever before are responding to the cry of the unfortunate refugee. Similarly, more Jewish organizations in Ottawa are listed among the givers than was the case in previous years. Above all, a significant feature of the 1940 campaign was the inauguration of a Junior Division, led by Bert Loeb and Albert Rivers, to arouse the Jewish youth to the full urgency of the problem.

The report expressed thanks to many of the active workers, with particular reference to "the unselfish devotion of our Secretary, Harry Goldman, who worked for this year's campaign under the strain of very trying conditions"; and "to Mr. Sam Lepofsky for his assistance."

Mr. Thomas Sachs, who was acting Chairman at the meeting, welcomed the resolution, unanimously passed, that expressed the gratitude of the Vaad to Mr. Loeb and his committee for their splendid work.

OTTAWA ZIONIST SOCIETY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Ottawa Zionist Society was reorganized some months ago after a group of public spirited men became convinced of the fact that the Zionist problem had attained unprecedented importance, and enlightement on this question became essential.

The spread of Fascism, war in Europe and increasingly difficult economic conditions are making the lot of the European Jew a tragic one; and the only ray of hope, the last straw, the only cure, that is not merely a temporary cure, is Palestine. Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are apparently available in limited proportions, but available they are to the saved souls in Palestine.

The U.P.A. is one means of realizing our aspirations there. You and I have seen thousands of dollars spent in an attempt to save one life. Looking at Palestine development from a purely business point of view, lives are being saved most economically, so that if we approach a successful U.P.A. drive from any point of view there is ample justification for everyone putting every effort behind it.

To the Chairman and Executive of the U.P.A. I wish every success. To the Members of the Ottawa Zionist Society, I ask you to give every possible support to the most worthy of causes.

Sincerely yours,

SIMON J. RITT

MR. BETCHERMAN

OTTAWA JEWRY is on the eve of launching its annual United Palestine Appeal. Under present conditions in Europe our need for Palestine is greater today than ever before. Thousands of Jews who must emigrate to escape destruction have only one haven—Palestine. It is the duty of every person to do his utmost and to make an extra effort to see that we reach our quota.

Every refugee entering Palestine is a life saved.

It is up to each and every Jew to do his bit.

ALEX BETCHERMAN,
Chairman

In Memoriam

MRS. RACHEL GOLDMAN

On Sunday, May 5, hundreds of Ottawa Jews paid their last respects to a universally beloved mother, when Mrs. Rachel Goldman, a resident here for thirty-two years was carried to her eternal rest. Common knowledge was the story of her heroic struggle through twenty-five years of widowhood to rear six small children into valuable popular members of the community. In his brief eulogy at the services in her home, Rabbi Fasman indicated how her numerous responsibilities only strengthened her great unselfishness and won for her a place of distinction among her people.

In extending its heartfelt sympathy to the members of the family, the Vaad Ha'Ir takes special cognizance of the fact that her son Harry has served his community faithfully as Secretary under the inspiration of her Jewish teaching and encouragement.

A Message from Mr. A. J. Freiman

Dominion Chairman of U.P.A.

On May 12th the United Palestine Appeal opens in the city of Ottawa.

Owing to world conditions we, the Zionists of Canada, have to assume greater responsibilities towards our cause. Unfortunately, we cannot expect the Jews of Germany, Poland, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Norway and Denmark or the neighbouring countries under the shadow of the Nazi menace to contribute due to present conditions. It is therefore practically left to the Jews of the North American continent and the Jewish Communities within the British Empire not only to make up the loss, but also to meet the need that is much greater and more urgent than ever before due to the war.

From the inferno of persecution, oppression and intolerance of Nazi-stricken countries, refugee Jews are arriving in Eretz Israel. Last year in spite of all difficulties, over twenty-six thousand souls landed in Palestine. For the unfortunate refugee Palestine spells home and hope. I am sure with all the possessions they have been robbed of, Palestine could have been built over and over again.

See in your mind's eye the city, town or hamlet in which you, your father or grandfather was born before arriving in this country; also see the Jewish suffering there today, their possessions gone, their families broken up, and their only salvation the hope of emigrating from these barbarous places.

May I use the message that Mordecai sent to Esther:

"And who knowest whether thou are not come to royal estate for such a time as this."

Think it over!

J. MIRSKY ELECTED Y.P.L. PRESIDENT

900th Rashi Anniversary Celebrated

At a regular meeting of the Young People's League of the United Synagogues of Ottawa, held in the Talmud Torah Hall on April 25, John Mirsky was elected to succeed Hy Solloway as president. Other officers chosen were: Vice-president, Sidney Pollock; Recording Secretary, Lillian Edelson; Corresponding Secretary, Sylvia Margosches; Treasurer, Lillian Coplan.

Rabbi Oscar Z. Fasman delivered an address on the topic, "Rashi: Can Interpretation Be Creative?" in honor of the 900th anniversary of the Great Commentator's birth. The Rabbi showed how Rashi's interpretation of the Bible and the Babylonian Talmud contributed immensely to the creation of Jewish culture by enriching our intellectual atmosphere. His talk was well-received, and it led to an informal discussion of the League's cultural program for the future.

Talmud Torah Children Amaze Elders

In a remarkable display of Jewish learning the pupils of the Ottawa Talmud Torah amazed their elders at the Public Examinations held in the Talmud Torah on Sunday, April 28. Parents were delighted to hear the children reply in fluent Hebrew to the numerous questions asked by Rabbi Oscar Z. Fasman, Rev. J. Rabin, and the teachers. Girls as well as boys proved that they had thoroughly mastered the material they are taught in History, Chumash, T'nach, Grammar, and Jewish Customs. Noticeable were the smiles of satisfaction on the faces of the Rabbi, Board Chairman M. Loeb, and other members of the Board, who came to assure themselves of the valuable results of their work.

Short addresses were delivered by Rev. J. Rabin, chairman of the Board of Education; Mr. I. Lieff, the Principal; Mr. S. Goner, a member of the Board; and Rabbi Fasman, who stressed the objective of the present campaign to enroll many new children, especially beginners, for the new term.

(Enrollment is still open; give your children the advantage of a sound Talmud Torah education!)

Why Are Omer Days Sad?

In the days of the Roman Emperor Hadrian, the Hebrew nation made its last desperate attempt to regain independence. Because the decrees against the Jewish religion became unreasonably cruel, Rabbi Akiba inspired a revolution against the government. The bloody campaign that ensued took its toll in the hundreds of thousands, and the most brutal reverses befell our people in the weeks between Pesach and Shabuoth. (Tradition ascribed the downfall of the movement to the petty jealousies and quarrels that disturbed the harmony among the disciples of Rabbi Akiba.) Since this period of our calendar coincides with the weeks of counting the Omer, they have been designated as weeks of sorrow, when weddings and festive occasions are forbidden. On the other hand, because the thirty-third day of the Omer was spared the occurrence of any tragedies, it became a day of joy and is celebrated as Lag B'Omer.

PRIZE-WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Bertha Slonemsky Chapter of Hadassah Tombola drawing in aid of Youth Al'yah. took place at the annual meeting of the chapter May 6th, with the following winners:
Mr. Moe Goldbloom; Mrs. William Read; Mr. Leonard Coulter; Mrs. Gordon Caplan; Corporal Sam Dworkin, R.C.O C. J. Boileau; Mrs. Z. Rill; Miss Ida Nayfach.

Montreal B'nai B'rith Hears Rabbi Fasman

At the invitation of the Mount Royal Lodge in Montreal, Rabbi Oscar Z. Fasman addressed the membership last night at the Mount Royal Hotel. Speaking on the topic, "The Meaning of Fraternity in the Present Crisis," the Rabbi composed three types of fraternity based on fear, utility, and idealism. "The only fraternity that is healthy and enduring," he said, "rests upon allegiance to a noble purpose held in common, for thus alone can the best qualities of each person become distilled into the invincible strength of the general good."

The Answer of A Christian Sage

To those who are want to accuse the Jewish religion of being narrow-minded in the spirit of its practices and customs, it is recommended that they study this passage in the first volume of the late Professor George Foot Moores' classical work, "Judaism" (page 22):

"The Jews were the only people in their world who conceived the idea of a universal religion, and labored it to realize it by a propaganda often more zealous than discreet, which made them many enemies; and precisely in the age when the 'anti-univeralistic' law was enthroned in the completest authority was the expansion of Judaism at its height."

Young Talmudists Show Spirit

The Talmud class for boys, started by Rabbi Fasman two weeks ago, promises to become one of the best-spirited study groups in the city. In simple Yiddish, supported by English where necessary, the Rabbi is expounding the third chapter of "Baba Mezia" to a growing circle of young listeners every Saturday afternoon at 5.15 in the vestry rooms of the Adath Jeshurun Congregation.

Tel Aviv Tennis Club Open

Tennis enthusiasts are expected to break the previous membership records of the Tel Aviv Tennis Club this year. Sunday, May 5th, was opening day at the Club Premises in Overbrook. The officers for 1940 are: Sol Max, President; Wilfred Gallay, Vice-president; Moe Zumar, Secretary; John Mirsky, Treasurer. All who are interested are urged to get in touch with membership Chairman Sid Pollock.

Will The Rabbi Be There?

Parents of a Bar Mitzvah who would like to have the Rabbi come to their "Simchah" should notify him several weeks in advance. An early invitation will help him to arrange his calendar to the best interests of all concerned.

HOW TRUE!

A Czech, a Dane, and a Jew met in New York to discuss the European situation.

Said the Czech: "I only wish I live to see the day when Hitler is put on the rack and slowly tortured to death."

Said the Dane: "I only wish I live to see the day when Hitler is put in a slowly heated cauldron of oil."

Said the Jew: "I only wish I live to see the day when I can walk down the Lindenstrasse in Berlin with my cousin there, and he will suddenly grab my sleeve and say, 'Look! There goes Hitler-nebich'."

RABBI FASMAN BRINGING FAMILY HERE

Rabbi Oscar Z. Fasman will leave for Chicago in the next few days to bring his wife and children here. The Rabbi's address in Ottawa is 353 Stewart Street.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Goldberg, 386 Hinton Avenue, announce the Bar Mitzvah of their son Morley at the Adath Jeshurun Congregation, King Edward Avenue, Saturday, May 11, at 9 a.m. Kiddush will be served in the synagogue vestry rooms after the services. Mr. and Mrs. Goldberg will be at home Sunday, May 12, from four to six o'clock.

From Your Rabbi's Creed

Religion consists of two elements: the spiritual, that uses ceremonial observances to develop the emotional side of the personality, and the social, that establishes human relationships upon the bases of ethics, morality, and kindness. To be devoted to the latter while disregarding the former is more than half-religion; to be scrupulous in the ritual but unscrupulous in dealing with our fellow men is not merely less than half-religion; it is not even no-religion; it is anti-religion.